



OXFAM
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WHAT'S UP?

NEWSLETTER, OXFAM IN NEPAL

FIGHTING INEQUALITY IN NEPAL

More than ever, we at Oxfam, are advocating for putting an end to inequality in Nepal. Recently we launched '[Fighting Inequality in Nepal](#)' report which works as a testament to show current scenario of the country where 8.1 million Nepalis live in poverty. Without the concerned effort to tackle inequality and pursue policies that benefit the many rather than the richest few, the poorest and most marginalized Nepalis will continue to be excluded from progress.

We believe that this report will seek to take stock of the context and drivers of inequality in Nepal, and offer evidence based recommendations that can support the government's commitment to tackle inequality. Oxfam is ever ready to support in building a more equal country that leaves nobody behind, Nepal must act now to put the right policies in place, and enable citizens and social movements to advocate for progressive change and hold decisions makers to account.

As an advocate for fighting inequality myself, I believe we all can join hands in creating equal opportunities for everybody leading to prosperity.

Cecilia Keizer, Country Director

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KNOWLEDGE SHARING AND LEARNING VISIT

(FEJ)

A team from Nepal carried out a learning visit to India to understand the fair-trade practices and possibility of market linkage of Nepali handicrafts products with Indian market, especially of knot craft and ceramic products. The team also explored the idea of recycling waste papers and leather products which can be replicated in Nepal as well.



Photo: Oxfam in Nepal

CREATING SPACES FOR WOMEN

(GJSI)

Creating spaces project recently conducted an assessment exercise applying Capacity Assessment Tool (CAT) on violence against women and girls (VAWGs), as a part of Oxfam's yearly preparation. Around 55 participants from all four-project districts, Dailekh, Baitadi, Rautahat and Banke were involved in the exercise. The assessment brings out the strengths of the partner organization including areas for improvement, helping them draw action plans to address the gaps.

"This exercise is like a mirror for us. It provides us healthy feedback in achieving our project objectives," said Mr. Deepak Bahadur Shahi, Chairperson of Everest Club, Dailekh, one of the partners for Creating Spaces project.

A PROUD ENTREPRENEUR (FEJ)



Photo: Gyanendra Pathak/ Fair Trade Group Nepal

Sunita Dahal, 34, from Nuwakot is an independent woman, advancing on the capacity she attains. Passionate about tailoring, she enrolled herself in three-months tailoring training provided by Oxfam to capacitate her sewing skills. After working for seven months' post training in a local private shop, she started her own business. With one sewing machine, she kick-started her journey to become a successful entrepreneur. She now earns 15,000 Nepali rupees per month, proudly supporting in household expenses. "Apart from the tailoring machine and trainings, the project provided regular guidance and encouragement which helped me to be an independent and a successful entrepreneur," she shared.



Photo: Aarati Sharma/Oxfam in Nepal

DIALOGUE ON CITIZENSHIP AND WOMEN'S LEGAL RIGHTS

(GJSI)

A one-day policy dialogue on the ongoing issue of citizenship and women's legal rights was organized in Kathmandu to share the findings gathered from local level deliberations. It aimed to carry out a broader level discussion through gender perspective on issues surrounding women's legal rights in the presence of governmental and non-governmental stakeholders.



Photo: Sofila Vaidya/Oxfam in Nepal

NEPAL INEQUALITY REPORT LAUNCHED

(Advocacy & Influencing)

Oxfam in Nepal together with its partners Humanitarian Accountability Monitoring Initiatives (HAMI) and South Asia Alliance for Poverty Eradication (SAAPE) launched 'Fighting Inequality in Nepal' report. The launch program was attended by the Vice Chairperson of National Planning Commission as a chief guest. Renowned economist, political analyst, vice chair of province level planning commission, parliamentarians and CSO leaders were present amongst other participants to put forth their deliberations on inequality. Read full report [here](#).



Photo: Buddhi Chaudhary/KIRDARC

WELL PREPARED TODAY FOR SAFER TOMORROW

(DRR-HUM)

Acknowledging the increasing disaster vulnerabilities and high probability of cross-border disasters in South Asian countries, a cross-country simulation exercise was organized. The exercise aimed to assess our capacity for a cross-border disaster response, and subsequently, work towards increasing our preparedness and response capacity to manage future cross-border disasters.

The first multi-country simulation exercise between Nepal, India and Bangladesh helped in understanding where we stand in terms of preparedness and to hear from different stakeholders including partner organizations, Government representatives, UN agency in strengthening our coordination during such disasters.



Photo: Sanjeeb Dhakal/Oxfam in Nepal

WOMEN LEADERSHIP IN TRANSBOUNDARY WATER GOVERNANCE

(WASH)

Women living in the river basins of Mahakali are dependent on the river for domestic usage, irrigation, and other forms of livelihood. However, they have limited control over the resources they are dependent on, and are impacted by water-induced disasters constantly fearing for loss of their lives and properties.

With the belief that empowering these women can eventually change their lives in a positive way, a forum called Women Empowerment Centre has been established to raise issues with the concerned stakeholders, demanding actions. Read more about why women leadership is important for transboundary water governance [here](#)



Photo: Oxfam in Nepal

START OF A GOOD LIFE WITH PROPER WATER SUPPLY

(WASH)

Walking far away to fetch drinking water is now an old story for Manmaya Thapa Magar from Siddhalek Gaupalika. She is very happy to access water directly from her own compound, which was earlier a dream. Many women like Manmaya do not have to face hardships anymore to fetch water for household activities nor for irrigating water into their nearby farm lands. Community school has also benefitted from water supply scheme. Easy access to water has been a start of a good life for community members.



Photo: Bal Bahadur Thakuri/Oxfam in Nepal



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FEEDBACK?

Do you have programme updates, stories, pictures, videos to share? Or, any important questions on the newsletter?

Please contact: **Sofila Vaidya, Media and Communication Officer** at svaidya@oxfam.org.uk

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